

REMARKS

This is a response to the outstanding Office Action on the above-identified application. Applicant has amended the claims as set forth above and respectfully submits that the claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance.

In response to the Election/Restriction requirement, Applicant hereby provisionally elects the species of Figure 1. Applicant notes that the Office Action indicates that Claim 1 is generic. Applicant submits that Claims 2, 4-9, 15-17 and 20 read on the species of Figure 1.

Applicant has amended Claim 10 to depend from Claim 1.

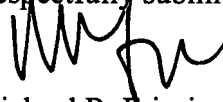
Claim 3 reads on the species of Fig. 2. Claim 10 and 11 reads on the species of Figures 3 and 4a and 4b. Claim 12 reads on Figure 3. Claims 13 and 14 read on Figures 4a and 4b. Claim 18 reads on Figure 3. Claim 19 reads on Figures 3 and 4a and 4b.

Applicant's election is made without prejudice. As noted by the Examiner, upon the allowance of a generic claim, Applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to not more than a reasonable number of species in addition to the elected species, provided that all claims to each additional species are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.141.

All issues raised in the Office Action are believed to have been addressed. Claims 1-20 remain for consideration. No new matter is believed to have been included. Reexamination is requested and favorable action solicited.

Dated: 2/19/99

Respectfully submitted,



Michael R. Friscia
Reg. No. 33,884
Attorney for Applicant
FRISCIA & NUSSBAUM
One University Plaza
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601
Tel. (201) 498-9800
Fax. (201) 498-1980

pat/0209301.389